

March 3, 1976

that was held over from last year. It was introduced early last year. It had a public hearing. We ran into some opposition from the orthopedic surgeons from the Nebraska Medical Association. They have pretty much, as far as I know, I have heard of no opposition. They have resolved their differences with the podiatrists. They insisted upon the amendment that was the Committee amendment and I think that the Nebraska Medical Association and all of their related disciplines now have no further opposition to this bill. I'd just like to briefly give you some idea about what the scope of practice is of the podiatrist. He is licensed to diagnose, treat, operate and prescribe for any disease, injury, deformity, or other conditions of the foot including surgery on the bones, muscles and tendons of the feet for the correction of deficiencies and deformities of a mechanical and functional nature. For example, podiatrists induce trauma of the body through surgery. They perform surgery under general and local anesthetics. They administer drugs including narcotics to the patients. These people are fully trained. There is a mistaken idea that these people are not qualified to perform this types of surgery and we are not asking for any additional surgery here, just as spelled out in the bill. But it appeared that the orthopedic surgeons had some concern that there would be some encroachment upon their field. I think these differences are resolved now. I think this is a good, clean bill and I would move or I would ask that it be advanced to E & R Initial.

PRESIDENT: Any further discussion? The question is, shall the bill be advanced? Record your vote. Have you voted? Record.

CLERK: 32 ayes, 0 nays on motion to advance.

PRESIDENT: The bill is advanced. 809.

CLERK: LB 809 introduced by Senator Cavanaugh. Read title. There are Committee amendments by Senator Murphy's Banking Committee.

PRESIDENT: Senator Murphy.

SENATOR MURPHY: The original bill that was presented by the bill drafter underwent one of those major amendments, a complete substitution on the day of the hearing. It was a bill that no one had seen in its reshaped form and the Committee had numerous questions relative to it and raised several points that needed to be changed. Accordingly, the people who had brought that in the day of the hearing went back and revised their revision and the Committee adopted the revised revision as amended by Senator Duis' amendment which limited to the State of Nebraska the hospitals that would be allowed to participate in a Nebraska Mutual. I would move that this body accept the Committee amendments as amended by the Duis amendment and then I would ask Senator Duis